

SOPER STRAINS HIS ANKLE.

AND WHAT IS WORSE, HE JARS HIS SYSTEM OF PHILOSOPHY.

Accidentally, He Falls an Inspiration of Mrs. Soper—How One Quiet Day at Home, From the Din of Downtown, Upon the Professional Characteristics of a Male.

Soper always makes the best of things. It is a sort of relation sensitive to annoyances as he has acquired the habit early in life, when he had to live in New Jersey with his parents, and later, when he went to board in Brooklyn, he practiced the same philosophy.

Yet Soper is not a callous man, you understand. He is in fact a sensitive man, and most persons are. But he makes the best of them. It has come to be a kind of professional cheerfulness. He is given to quoting Emerson to his wife. Any evil that is overcome is not an evil, but a good, he says.

He had only put the question for the pleasure of answering it himself. But his wife was on him here. "Never mind, Ferdinand, what Fiske says," she remarked. "I'm sure it's no improvement on what I've been hearing for a long time in your own language."

That, she said, "is the wit of the comic papers—the colored kind, with the mother-in-law jokes and the young man afraid to pull the ice cream saloon with his best girl. Still, perhaps it's best, if a trifle vulgar. It makes you seem commonplace for a change."

Then he sighed and hit his pipe. There were times, if he dared to confess it, when the little ironies of life crowded his philosophy pretty hard. Was his wife in earnest? Could it be possible?

A terrible thought he dared not entertain emerged from a murky corner of his subconsciousness. So, to divert the thought, he smoked three more pipes, which was really much worse, if he had only smoked two.

Soper slept badly that night. To many pipes, perhaps. He had a nightmare, too. All the troubles of his life were personified as Filipinos, popping at him from ambush, and he with a great sobbing and aching at them, with perfect fury, from afar and swearing like the army in the middle of getting down stairs with a light and a candle.

Soper winced, actually winced, for once. He had business on hand that could not be neglected. There was a rich client to please, and a client as unreasonable as he was rich. The client's wife was worse. The perfected plan for that timber and plaster house was promised for the end of the week. The client's wife would be satisfied with nothing less than a triumph of architecture.

WOMEN'S SENSE OF HUMOR.

MR. DEWEY MAY IRWIN AND OTHERS DISCUSS ITS EXISTENCE.

No humorist in the Gutter. Says the Senator—J. K. Bangs' Idea of the Kind of Humor That Appeals to Women—Nimrod Ford Not a Humorist, Though His Female Relations Are—And Some Others.

"May Irwin? She's not a humorist!" said the Hon. Chauncey M. Dewey. "Chauncey Dewey says that." "But not Mrs. Irwin said it wasn't for publication and that settles it."

The question was an old one: Do women have a sense of humor? They have long been accused of having a hollow where that humor ought to be. Some say the accusation started with Adam, at whose poor jokes Eve wouldn't laugh, especially after she met the serpent.

At any rate, women had stood accused of the crime of lacking humor until he came along with an accepted tradition—with men, of course. Women who have a sense of humor know they have it, and those who haven't think they have it, so that settles the matter as far as they are concerned. But there are plenty of men who offer a dissenting opinion.

Plainly, the thing to be done is to take the evidence of persons who are supposed to be good customers in that line of trade. The case of humorists, Mr. Chauncey Dewey says that women are witty, but not humorous.

"Is there a single woman humorist in the whole range of literature?" he asked. "Not humorous, perhaps, but there are women who write and are full of humor," "How about Mary Wilkins?"

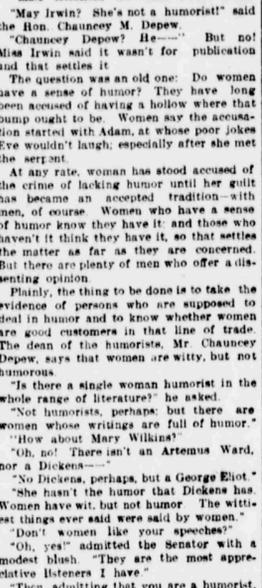
"Oh, no! There isn't an Artemus Ward, nor a Dickens," "No Dickens, perhaps, but a George Eliot." "She hasn't the humor that Dickens has. Women have wit, but not humor. The best things ever said were said by women."

"Don't women like your speeches?" "Oh, yes," admitted the Senator with a modest blush. "They are the most appreciative listeners I have." "Then, admitting that you are a humorist, do you admit that women appreciate humor?"

"Well, I can admit that I'm an alleged humorist and I certainly admit that women appreciate humor. But they don't create it. Now I—dine out occasionally. I can find men, some who have achieved distinction, who have the ability, by putting a thing wrong and foremost or by placing two incongruous things in juxtaposition, to make them very funny. I never have met a woman with that power. Men often fight it in themselves, lest it make enemies or lead people to take them seriously."

USE CUTICURA SOAP.

FOR THE SKIN.



MILLIONS of Women Use CUTICURA SOAP, assisted by Cuticura Ointment, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes, itching, and chafing, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and many sanative antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women and mothers, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humor. Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin or crusts and scales, and to soothe itching, inflammation, and irritation, and to cure the most torturing itching, burning, and scaly skin, and blood humors, with loss hair, when all else fails, except throughout the world.

WOMEN'S SENSE OF HUMOR.

MR. DEWEY MAY IRWIN AND OTHERS DISCUSS ITS EXISTENCE.

No humorist in the Gutter. Says the Senator—J. K. Bangs' Idea of the Kind of Humor That Appeals to Women—Nimrod Ford Not a Humorist, Though His Female Relations Are—And Some Others.

"May Irwin? She's not a humorist!" said the Hon. Chauncey M. Dewey. "Chauncey Dewey says that." "But not Mrs. Irwin said it wasn't for publication and that settles it."

Plainly, the thing to be done is to take the evidence of persons who are supposed to be good customers in that line of trade. The case of humorists, Mr. Chauncey Dewey says that women are witty, but not humorous.

"Is there a single woman humorist in the whole range of literature?" he asked. "Not humorous, perhaps, but there are women who write and are full of humor," "How about Mary Wilkins?"

"Oh, no! There isn't an Artemus Ward, nor a Dickens," "No Dickens, perhaps, but a George Eliot." "She hasn't the humor that Dickens has. Women have wit, but not humor. The best things ever said were said by women."

"Don't women like your speeches?" "Oh, yes," admitted the Senator with a modest blush. "They are the most appreciative listeners I have." "Then, admitting that you are a humorist, do you admit that women appreciate humor?"

"Well, I can admit that I'm an alleged humorist and I certainly admit that women appreciate humor. But they don't create it. Now I—dine out occasionally. I can find men, some who have achieved distinction, who have the ability, by putting a thing wrong and foremost or by placing two incongruous things in juxtaposition, to make them very funny. I never have met a woman with that power. Men often fight it in themselves, lest it make enemies or lead people to take them seriously."

"Oh, yes," admitted the Senator with a modest blush. "They are the most appreciative listeners I have." "Then, admitting that you are a humorist, do you admit that women appreciate humor?"

Hamburg-American. TWIN SCREW EXPRESS SERVICE. PLYMOUTH-CHEERBOURG-HAMBURG.

USE CUTICURA SOAP. MEDICAL TOILET. RASCUS PATENT.

WHITE STAR LINE. NEW YORK-QUEENSTOWN-LIVERPOOL. OCEANIC LINE.

NEW YORK CENTRAL. Trains arrive at and depart from Grand Central Station, 42nd St., New York.

WEST SHORE RAILROAD. Trains leave from Franklin St. Station, N.Y.

Lackawanna Railroad. Stations in New York, foot of Broadway.

BOSTON AND POINTS IN NEW ENGLAND. FALL RIVER LINE. PROVIDENCE LINE.

Central Europe. Leaving New York by North German Lloyd.

Southern Europe. Leaving New York by the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grösse.

Switzerland. Leaving New York by the Grand Hotel.

Raymond & Whitcomb's TOURS AND TICKETS EVERYWHERE.

Pennsylvania Railroad. STATIONS foot of West Twenty-third Street.

NEW YORK CENTRAL. Trains arrive at and depart from Grand Central Station.

WEST SHORE RAILROAD. Trains leave from Franklin St. Station.

Lackawanna Railroad. Stations in New York, foot of Broadway.

BOSTON AND POINTS IN NEW ENGLAND. FALL RIVER LINE. PROVIDENCE LINE.

Central Europe. Leaving New York by North German Lloyd.

Southern Europe. Leaving New York by the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grösse.

Switzerland. Leaving New York by the Grand Hotel.

Raymond & Whitcomb's TOURS AND TICKETS EVERYWHERE.

Raymond & Whitcomb's Pan-American Exposition.

NOTICE TO TRAVELERS. COOK'S INTERPRETERS. UNIFORM.

AMERICAN LINE. NEW YORK-SOUTHAMPTON-LONDON.

RED STAR LINE. NEW YORK-ANTWERP-LONDON.

Switzerland. Leaving New York by the Grand Hotel.

Raymond & Whitcomb's TOURS AND TICKETS EVERYWHERE.

LONG ISLAND EXPRESS. Will call for and check baggage at residence.

ERIE RAILROAD. Through trains leave from New York at 8:00 A.M.

MAINE STEAMSHIP COMPANY. Through trains leave from New York at 8:00 A.M.

Switzerland. Leaving New York by the Grand Hotel.

Raymond & Whitcomb's TOURS AND TICKETS EVERYWHERE.

NOTICE TO TRAVELERS. COOK'S INTERPRETERS. UNIFORM.

AMERICAN LINE. NEW YORK-SOUTHAMPTON-LONDON.

RED STAR LINE. NEW YORK-ANTWERP-LONDON.

Switzerland. Leaving New York by the Grand Hotel.

Raymond & Whitcomb's TOURS AND TICKETS EVERYWHERE.

LONG ISLAND EXPRESS. Will call for and check baggage at residence.

ERIE RAILROAD. Through trains leave from New York at 8:00 A.M.

MAINE STEAMSHIP COMPANY. Through trains leave from New York at 8:00 A.M.

Switzerland. Leaving New York by the Grand Hotel.

Raymond & Whitcomb's TOURS AND TICKETS EVERYWHERE.